thecollegian



VOL.118 NO. 114





Break's best Kick off your spring break with the best of this week's Fourum

A winning resource K-State LGBT Resource Center coordinator recognized with honor

Behind the scenes Explore the inner workings of Bramlage from a staffer's eyes

WILDCATS TO PLAY OKLAHOMA STATE IN BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIP SEMIFINALS

MOVING AHEAD



Emily DeShazer | Collegian

Senior guard Rodney McGruder pulls up for a shot over four Texas defenders on Thursday in the first round of the Big 12 Championship at the Sprint Center in Kansas City, Mo. McGruder led the team with 24 points and grabbed seven rebounds to help the Wildcats defeat Texas 66-49.

John Zetmeir staff writer

When it comes to post-season play, every team needs its best player to step up. Senior guard Rodney McGruder commanded that role as he led the No. 11 K-State Wildcats to a 66-49 victory over the Texas Longhorns.

This is the first time that K-State has advanced to the Big 12 Championship tournament semi-finals since the 2009-10 season. McGruder finished the game with a gamehigh 24 points and a team-high seven rebounds.

"It was a good win. We've talked about Texas and how much improvement they've made over the stretch, obviously with [Myck] Kabongo back [it] changed their team," said K-State head coach Bruce Weber. "So proud of the guys. You keep finding somebody to step

The Longhorns came out in a 3-2 zone defense that had the Wildcats puzzled at first. Texas started the game on a 7-1 run; however, the Wildcats countered with a 10-2 run to give them an 11-9 lead. The Longhorns would never regain the

This is the third time K-State has defeated the Longhorns this season. The Wildcats won all three matchups by an average of 18.3 points.

"I told the guys I thought they would play zone," Weber said. "I thought we just didn't do a good job of penetrating. When we did, it was usually late in the shot clock and we were able to get some kind of action and get something hap-

In the team's last matchup with K-State, Texas' sophomore guard Myck Kabongo finished with 24 points and six rebounds, but the Wildcats were able to keep him quiet on Thursday night. In what could be Kabongo's last game as a Texas Longhorn, the star guard finished with only 2 points, five rebounds and seven assists.

"[K-State] is a good basketball team; they did a good job. I still think that we had a lot of shots that we wanted and got in there. We got in there and you just have to finish the plays, and just taking care of the ball," Kabongo said. "We didn't win, so it doesn't matter how you played as an individual. We didn't win; it's a collective thing. We need everyone to play well and that's what it takes to win, and we didn't do that.'

Another player who stepped up for the Wildcats was freshman forward D.J. Johnson. After playing double-digit minutes just once during Big 12 play this season, Johnson played 15 minutes on Thursday in which he scored 8 points and grabbed seven rebounds.

s"I thought that I put in a lot of effort, and just did what the coaches asked from me and rebound," Johnson said. "We do a lot. When I got here I didn't know too much about the game, and the coaches do a great job of teaching it to all of us. It's been a lot of learning and a

lot of teaching, too."

Coming off of a sluggish performance against Oklahoma State, guard Angel Rodriguez bounced back in a big way. After going 0-4 from behind the arc last Saturday, Rodriguez hit his first two shots from long range to ignite the Wildcats' offense. The sophomore from San Juan finished with 13 points, five assists and only one turnover.

"We watched film, and the threes I was taking against Oklahoma State were kind of far, and sometimes it's not always going to be a good day," Rodriguez said. "I'm always going to play with high con-

fidence. The Wildcats will face off with the No. 14 Oklahoma State Cowboys on Friday for their second time in a week. In the last matchup, the Cowboys bested the Wildcats

The winner of Friday's game will advance to the Big 12 Championship game on Saturday at 5 p.m.

SGA decides students will pay for Union upgrades

Zach Foley

Discussion at Thursday night's Student Governing Association meeting focused on the future of the K-State Student Union. Senators reviewed tentative plans for the Union renovation and debated and voted on Union finances. Other topics included new legislation and changing K-State's email

Chelsea Gerber and Brett Seidl, juniors in mass communications, made a presentation to senators last night on plans for the Union renovation.

"The Union has issues like structural deterioration because not much has been done to the Union since opening in 1956," Seidl said. "If we don't take action, the Union will no longer be able to serve students."

The senators then viewed digital renderings of plans for the new southwest entrance, which will be available to all students on March 25. Students will be able to vote in April on whether they would be willing to pay \$20 more in privilege fees to fund Union renova-

"[Supporting Union renovations is an opportunity for students to leave a mark on campus," Seidl said.

The Union finance bills, which were first introduced at last week's meeting, took up the bulk of Thursday's meeting, with much debate focused on a bill to increase the Union's profitability. The Union has functioned at a loss in 9 of the last 10 years.

Cody Kennedy, student senator and junior in education, opposed the bill. Kennedy said it is not the students' responsibility to pay off Union debts and argued that the Union should reconsider its business model so that it can operate without losing money every year.

'We didn't want to have to go to the students [to pay for the Union debts]," said Nate Spriggs, student body president and senior in agricultural economics. "We tried other avenues first."

Bill Smriga, K-State Student Union director and student life representative, said the bill is not what the Union wants, but it is what the Union needs.

The bill passed, along with other bills regarding Union repairs, all of which will lead to an increase in student privilege fees.

All other bills from the last meeting passed as well, including allocations for disability awareness week and the Muslim Student Association. At the next meeting, SGA will vote on legislation including a bill to accept the results of the recent SGA elections

SGA | pg. 3

With springtime at hand, students welcome return of outdoor activities

Zaldy Doyungan

now, K-State students know what to do when it comes to Kansas weather: give up on predicting what is coming next. The weather might be warm and pleasant one day, produce large snowflakes the next, then return to beach temperatures once again. Mother Nature has been fooling Manhattan residents and students for many years.

Yet now, in the middle of March, the forecast is more pleasant. Students have begun packing up their winter clothes and bringing out their warmer weather gear. Spring will officially be here on March 20, and for many students, it couldn't come soon enough.

"The winter was pretty rough,"

said Taylor Stewart, senior in business management. "I'm just really ready to be doing homework and other things poolside again."

Many K-Staters are excited for that inevitable moment when the weather becomes enjoyable. Whether it's making a trip to Pillsbury Crossing, tanning in the sun or just tossing a baseball or football around, the possibilities for outdoor activities are endless when

the weather is pleasing.
"My favorite thing to do is to get a bunch of girls together, drive around, windows down, music up, and get some Sonic happy hour," said Whitney Pleming, junior in

business management. Students usually enjoy the spring weather by doing many of their favorite outdoor activities, but Erica Rohr, sophomore in elementary education, said she appreciates the warm weather for one reason in particular.

"It may sound bad, but I don't like walking in the cold," Rohr said. "So when the weather get's warm, I'll actually walk to class again."

With spring break around the corner, many students hope to take advantage of the great weather to better their fitness, as well as en-

SPRING | pg. 3

Evert Nelson | Collegian

Students work on taking down hammocks they put up to enjoy warm weather on March 8. Ham mocks were seen on and around campus Thursday as K-Staters enjoyed a day of 70-degree weather.





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THE FOURUM

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 ${\bf Like\ your\ favorite\ posts\ at\ the four um.} k state collegian. com$

The Fourum is a quirky view of campus life in voices from the K-State community. Positive and humorous comments are selected for publication by the Collegian marketing staff.

The Fourum
To see the rest of today's entries, visit kstatecollegian.com.

A little cultural sensitivity would be nice.
Doing a spread on "Irish car bomb" cupcakes is much like "9/11" brownies or "Trade Tower"

cookies. C'mon, guys.

I'm so sick of people complaining in the Fourum. It's supposed to be funny, so just stop ... Oh, wait ...

Be honest: If you weren't raised with your religion, would you still choose it?

Editor's note: To submit your Fourum contribution, call or text 785-260-0207 or email thefourum@kstatecollegian.com. Your email address or phone number is logged but not published.

THE BEST OF THE FOURUM

To the group of 5 guys being loud as hell while leaving in the middle of STAT 351: People might like you more if you weren't so rude.

-- Is hell louder than the octagon of doom? Not likely.

To all the people who don't go to microbiology lecture ... I despise you.

--- About that...could I borrow your notes?

What's the best thing about using the faculty restrooms? There's no one there to hear you poop!

--- Because the poop turns stealth or because no one is around?

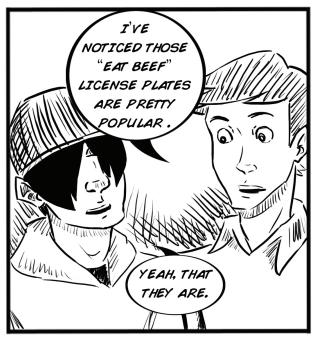
Dear professors, I think you've figured me out. I JUST LOVE having 4 tests and 2 essays in the same week and right before spring break! Thanks!

--- Ohhhh. THAT'S how you do sarcasm over text. SOOOO interesting.

You know you're an alcoholic when doctors find traces of blood in your alcohol stream.

 Or you know you're a doctor when alcohol finds traces of blood in your doctor stream!

Logan's Run | By Aaron Logan





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit submitted letters for clarity, accuracy, space and relevance. A letter intended for publication should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article that appeared in the Collegian within the last 10 issues. It must include the author's first and last name, year in school and major. If you are a graduate of K-State, the letter should include your year(s) of graduation and must include the city and state where you live. For a letter to be considered, it must include a phone number where you can be contacted. The number will not be published. Letters can be sent to letters@kstatecollegian.com

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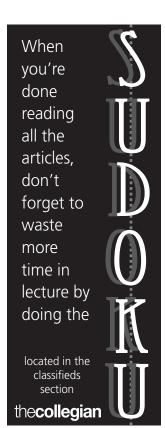
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CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call managing editor Darrington Clark at 785-532-6556 or email <code>news@kstatecollegian.com</code>.

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Comedy Central's Eliot Chang brings tour to K-State

Zaldy Doyungan

Comedy Central's Eliot Chang had audience members cracking up at the Union Ballroom on Thursday evening.

The Union Program Council and the Asian American Student Union hosted the comedy show, free for students. The performance, which was followed by a question-and-answer session with the audience, was part of Chang's "Easily Excited" U.S. comedy tour.

"He's actually been here before, and he emailed us," said Elizabeth Yang, AASU president and senior in human resource management. "Since it's Asian Heritage Week, we thought it'd be a good idea to have him. Everybody loves comedy, and he's doing a Q&A about Asians in social media, so it fits right in."

Chang has appeared on shows on the Showtime channel as well as on "Chelsea Lately" hosted by Chelsea Handler on the E! Network, but he got his start when he appeared on Comedy Central's prominent show "Comedy Central Presents," a half-hour program that showcases various stand-up comics from all over the U.S. Chang's performance on the show was voted No. 2 in Comedy Central's Stand Up Showdown in 2011.

Since then, Chang has traveled around the U.S. performing at universities like the University of Arizona and Virginia Tech. Chang also performs in comedy venues such as the Comedy Palace in California and the Comedy Spot in Arizona.

Chang's stories about relationships, intimacy, race and questionable sexualities mixed with his outrageous personality had some audience members tearing up from laughter throughout his routine.

"I thought he was hilarious. He was really edgy and dirty, which might offend people, but I thought he was funny."

Mason Carey sophomore in life sciences

"I thought he was hilarious," said Mason Carey, sophomore in life sciences. "He was really edgy and dirty, which might offend people, but I thought he

was funny."

Like Carey, most students attended the show for entertainment purposes. For Daniel Neely, junior in food sciences and journalism and winner of K-State's first annual Last Comic Standing competition, the event provided an educational opportunity.

"I'm excited to get some insider knowledge about the routine," Neely said. "Any chance I get to see some comedy and learn from it is good growth for me as a comedian."

Neely, along with other audience

members, enjoyed Chang's style and the way he set up his jokes.

"He talked about subjects I have heard before, but it was in a way I've never heard before," Neely said. "His follow-ups to his punchlines were actually some of his funnier stuff to me."

After the show, the audience was able to text questions to Chang through a private number, and Chang could answer the anonymous questions.

This is the one of a few occasions the Asian American Student Union has paired with UPC to host an event. Michelle Foster, multicultural cochair of UPC and senior in American ethnic studies, said she thinks UPC co-sponsoring events with other student organizations is a great idea.

"Some organizations don't have the budget like we have," Foster said. "Co-sponsoring is a way that they can bring their events, and we get to help them. Plus, it was very easy to jump onboard because they were already so organized with the event."

Evert Nelson | Collegian

Comedian Eliot Chang entertains the audience in the Grand Ballroom of the K-State Student Union on Thursday night, hosted by the Union Program Council and the Asian American Student Union. Aspiring comedian Daniel Neely, junior in food sciences and journalism and winner of K-State's Last Comic Standing competition, said Chang takes a novel approach to stand-up.



SPRING | Warm weather improves athletic training

Continued from page 1

hance their "beach bodies."

"I'll be able to run around without a shirt," Stewart said.
"I'll get fit as well as get some tan so I don't burn up too bad on spring break."

Many athletes also utilize the fair weather to train outdoors. Angela Hart, junior in social sciences and hurdler for the K-State track team, said she takes advantage of the warm weather to help train for upcoming meets.

"Warm weather is enjoyable weather, and I think it puts not only me but others in a good mood when we train, which in turn may cause a better practice," Hart said. "When I'm in a good mood, I have a better practice, and I don't think anybody likes being locked up during the winter, especially when your sport is mainly an outside sport."

This past weekend saw daylight saving time begin as clocks were pushed an hour ahead. This will allow people to enjoy more daylight and, hopefully, save money on their electric bills. Some students realized the difference of having an extra hour of day-

light in the afternoon.

"I noticed the difference
on my Tuesday night class,"
Pleming said. "It was still light
outside when I got out of class,

so that was weird."

For some students, the change is more subtle.

"I honestly didn't notice any differences," Rohr said. "Yet I have been waking up earlier."

With winter a thing of the past, most students are thankful for the nice weather, and students can soon expect to see more outdoor activities on campus and outside of their homes.

SGA | Alums keep email

Continued from page 1

and to allocate funds to various academic competition teams.

Grant Hill, student body vice president and senior in accounting, also announced the university's decision to switch K-State's email provider from Zimbra Webmail to Microsoft 365. Students will no longer lose their email accounts a year after graduating,

and the new service will be implemented in July.

According to Hill, one of the main factors in the university's choice is that, because most businesses and companies use Microsoft operating systems, Microsoft 365 will keep K-State students ahead of the learning

curve in the job market. SGA will meet again after spring break on March 28 at 7 p.m. in the Big 12 room of the Union.





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Group celebrates Asian-American heritage in March

contributing writer

The Irish are not the only cultural group in the spotlight in March. The Asian American Student Union has dedicated the month of March to Asian-American culture and heritage. The group has a number of campus-wide events planned to promote cultural awareness throughout the month.

Tonight, the ASSU will host "Taste of Asia" at the Ecumenical Campus Ministry building from 7 to 9 p.m. At the event, guests can sample a wide range of cuisine from Asia. The ECM building is located on Denison Avenue across from Fiedler Hall.

The group hopes to promote its members' personal identification as people of Asian descent who are also Americans. This puts them in a cultural position facing unique challenges, said Elizabeth Yang, ASSU president and senior in manage-

"The way we work culture into the group is by bringing forth issues that we, as Asian-Americans, are current-

ly facing," Yang said. The AASU was started in 1991 by student Jason Ly, who had a simple goal in mind.

"He wanted to increase the amount of awareness that the Asian-American culture was receiving," said Natasha Nguyen, AASU treasurer and sophomore in industrial engineering.

Today, the group has the same mission: to raise the visibility and awareness of the Asian-American culture at K-State, and to provide support and foster unity and equality for all Asian-American and international students on campus. Their efforts include planning cultural events, holding fundraisers and maintaining a Facebook page to keep group members informed and

"Sometimes, when there are certain issues that come about, we will post it on our page," said Andy Luu, AASU secretary and junior in biological systems engineering. "Then we will talk and discuss with our members and other AASU branch-

es about the event and what we can

do around our campuses to prevent

For example, a video posted by a student at another university recently attracted controversy for its racism. The video was posted to the K-State AASU Facebook page, and group members discussed their reactions to the video and ways to prevent a similar event from happening on the K-State campus.

The group is open to all K-State students. This year, there are approximately 15 active members. The members tend to be Asian-American even though the group is open to other students as well, Yang said.

"Even though there are a lot of international students and we're not Asian, but Asian-American, they kind of feel like they're not welcome, Yang said. However, the group encourages any interested student to participate.

The AASU meets every other Monday in Stateroom 3 in the K-State Student Union. The next AASU meeting will be held March 25 at 8 p.m.

For more information about the



Caitlyn Massy | Collegian

job of helping us out with our events, and we do the same."

events throughout the year in-

cluding a Welcome Back Bar-

becue, World Aids Awareness

Day, National Coming Out Day

and the Lavender Graduation

event at the end of the spring

Haddock said LGBT groups

"We have a good faculty staff

at K-State enjoy the support

and involvement of faculty

group here on campus that

does reach out to our students,

that participates in panel dis-

cussions and helps organize

its mark on campus in its first

three years, and Haddock

part of campus life, and there's

many ways we can do that

through activities and bringing

speakers in, but I always want

to make sure that our students

retain a voice and an identity,"

Miller School of Journalism

and Mass Communications.

The center has already made

"I want us to remain a viable

events," Haddock said.

wants it to keep growing.

semester.

members.

The center also hosts many

Grace Huang, senior in accounting, talks on the phone while studying on her computer on Thursday in Hale Library.

Asian American Student Union, visit the group's website at k-state.edu/ aasu/AsianAmericaStudentUnion, or visit the AASU Facebook page at facebook.com/groups/ksu.aasu.

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communi-

Student wins national award for work with LGBT Resource Center

Katie Watkins

contributing writer

K-State prides itself on its family-orientated atmosphere and welcoming nature. Many student organizations and campus centers work to make the university an inviting space for a diverse study body. One of these organizations is the LGBT Resource Center.

The award-winning center, which is aimed at providing awareness and support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students, is in its third year at K-State.

"The intent of the office is to provide our LGBT community on campus a physical space where they can feel safe and get into contact with the resources they may feel they need," said Brandon Haddock, the center's student services coordinator and graduate student in geography.

Haddock was recently awarded the Campus Pride Voice and Action National Leadership Award for Advisers. The national LGBT organization Campus Pride gives the award to a leader who does outstanding work to support the LGBT community on a college campus.

As part of his application, Haddock wrote, "Three years ago, at K-State, there was not a single LGBT-themed course offered," according to the Campus Pride website. "Today we have courses on the coming out experience, intersectionality of race, gender and sexuality ... In nearly every instance these courses have been enrolled to capacity and have become highly in demand by students in counseling services, educa-

tion, sociology and psychology." Haddock received his award in Las Vegas at a convention held March 3-7. He was nominated by Caleb Kueser, treasurer of LGBT and Allies and senior in public health nutri-

"The resource center has been a very beneficial part of my life as it serves as the central hub for everything LGBT-related on campus and in the community," Kueser said. "The center works to make sure that all of our groups are taken care of and get a voice when needed. It's a wonderful thing to have on our progressing campus."

The idea for a resource center at K-State first came up at a progressive dinner held by the LGBT & Allies organization several years ago. Some of the students and faculty discussed the need for a home base for all of the LGBT organizations and put their plans into action. The center opened in 2010.

"When any community has a physical presence somewhere, then it kind of says, 'You know what — you're valid; your feel-

"I think the hardest thing for a student to do is to walk through those doors," Haddock

The resource center provides information on financial campus organizations, campus events and counsel-

"When any community has a physical presence somewhere, then it kind of says, 'You know what — you're valid; your feelings are valid; your identity is valid."

Brandon Haddock LGBT Resource Center coordinator graduate student in geography

ings are valid; your identity is valid," Haddock said.

Since then, the program has

"We really have developed as an office," Haddock said. *We have helped create an identity for our LGBT students, but also our staff and the greater com-

Haddock encourages all interested students to come in and check out the center, but he knows it can be a difficult step

ing. Campus organizations connected with the LGBT Resource Center include LGBT and Allies, Delta Lambda Phi, Gamma Rho Lambda, Safe-

Zone and FIRE. In addition to serving lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students, the center also welcomes allies or any students who may have questions.

We are here to represent the LGBT community, but it's also for education," Haddock said.

"Through LGBT education, people begin to understand

Simone Dorsey, president of LGBT and Allies and senior in family studies and human services, said that K-State's formal organizations for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students are exceptional.

"K-State is the first campus in Kansas to have both a Delta Lambda Phi and Gamma Rho Lambda," Dorsey said.

Delta Lambda Phi is a progressive fraternity for gay and bisexual men, individuals who identify as men and their allies. Gamma Rho Lambda is a progressive sorority for lesbian or bisexual women and their allies.

Dorsey credits the LGBT Resource Center for representing LGBT organizations on campus.

"The center acts as our voice on campus to the higher-ups like Dr. Bosco and Kirk Schulz, Dorsey said. "The center comes to our events and we go to theirs." The LGBT Resource Center

also helps sponsor events like the K-State Drag Show and K-State Project Runway. "We work closely with the

student organizations," Had-dock said. "They do a great

Haddock said. Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q.

Fall trimester starting in Melbourne



Hello everyone! I know this may seem crazy to all of you, but I just began my semester of classes on March 11. At Deakin University's Melbourne campus, we have three trimesters per year, and we just started Trimester 1, also known as Fall Trimester because the seasons are opposite here. This university also has many students who commute daily, so the classes are set up quite differently than they are at K-State.

STAY UP-TO-DATE

Currently, the only days I have class are Monday and Tuesday, so I have a five-day weekend! I am taking four units this semester — that equates to 12 hours back at home. My official classes are Literature for Children and Young Adults; Australia Today; Language: Speech and Sounds; and Dance Improvisation and Body Awareness. In each of my classes, there is a one- to two-hour lecture and a two-hour tutorial. The tutorials are similar to the recitations at K-State, where there is a smaller section of the entire class to dissect the material and get greater meaning

I am also taking a dance class for the first time, and it is an eye-opening experience. The Dance Improvisation class does not require you to have any previous dance training, but the majority of the class is made up of dance majors, which is slightly intimidating. In this class, you have to get over the fact that you will look weird and just move your body in the way they tell you to. It reminds me of a mixture of yoga and contemporary dance.

In most of my tutorials, we have had to introduce ourselves to the class. The second a word comes out of my mouth, the whole class turns to look at the girl with an accent. Overall, I am looking forward to my units and meeting more Australians in my

Erica Hamman is a junior in biology. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.





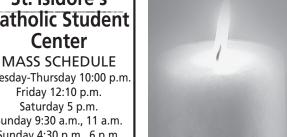
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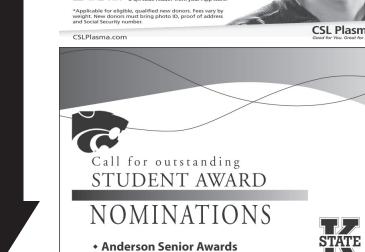
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Traditional Worship Sunday 11:00am Sanctuary

Sunday School - 9:45am

ALUMNI

Wednesday Night 5:30pm Communion





Christian Science Society –

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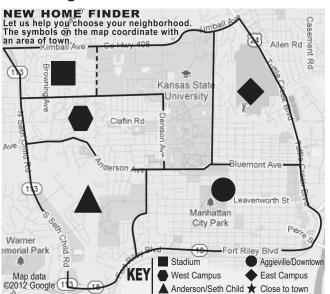
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the **collegian**



120 Rent-Houses & Duplexes

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310 Help Wanted

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Difficulty Level ★★★★

Answer to the last Sudoku.

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THE COLLEGIAN can-

310

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Categories

Housing/Real Estate

Behind the scenes at Bramlage: K-State vs. Texas Tech, Feb. 25

Joe Swain

contributing writer

Editor's note: This article is the first in a three-part series.

Feb. 25, 2:30 p.m., 3.5 hours to tipoff

Adrian Esquilin, sophomore in open option from Houston, enters a mostly empty Bramlage Coliseum — at least, it seems mostly empty to those who never look behind closed doors.

Esquilin's title is Lead Patrons Supervisor, though he wears no badge saying so. He doesn't have to. Those who work behind the scenes know him as the floor boss. The mediator. The bouncer. The problem-solver who remains calm under pressure the way a point guard manages the team offense. Esquilin's team includes the security crew, the arena ushers and ticket takers. His uniform is standard security black (think Secret Service agents): black suit jacket over a purple dress Oxford V-neck, dark gray slacks and sturdy black shoes. He is about to begin a long night of pounding the pavement.

2:44 n.m.

First order of business: A private briefing with Jim Muller, director of facilities mainte-

The two talk business, planning for the evening ahead. They sound like trained professionals who are surprised by nothing. For Esquilin and Muller, a good night is one without excitement. A good night is one that demonstrates that preparation is everything, a night in which all surprises have been anticipated, all disturbances have been rehearsed, all plans have backup plans. Bramlage veterans know the drill: The only thing predicable is that nothing is predictable.

3·05 n m

The two-man briefing adjourns. Their only concern is a major snowstorm heading toward Manhattan. Estimated time of snow arrival: game time.

3:32 p.m.

The supervisors are setting up their assigned areas. Esquilin places two "green shirts" (so called because the employees wear characteristic green polos) at two locations: one at the southeast entrance to do a check on anyone entering the building and one at the iCat line. iCat holders will be allowed into the building 30 minutes before the general public.

2.52 - --

Muller meets with the supervisors. There are two types: lead supervisors, dressed in white polos and black slacks, and staff supervisors in suits and dresses. Together, they go over game notes, focusing on two issues unique to this game: the impending snowstorm and a special offer allowing free entry for students. Muller advises gate supervisors and staff to be on the lookout for icy conditions.

While the meeting is going on in the concourse, the green shirts are arriving for their meeting, which takes place two hours before tipoff. At this time, various staff members arrive at the arena, including concessions staff. Most of the workers are volunteers from local organizations.

4:05 p.m.

Esquilin opens the meeting with the green shirts, going over the same game notes he did with the supervisors and reminding the outdoor ushers to be aware of any icy issues. While this is taking place, K-State HDTV is setting up for the pre-game show.

4:09 p.m.

The group breaks into their respective assignments: ticket-takers, security staff and ushers. Each group is responsible for one area of Bramlage. The security team and ushers meet inside the arena while the ticket-takers meet on the concourse.

4:18 p.m.

Esquilin meets some of the vendors who have set up along the concourse. He checks to make sure no one has any questions or concerns. Most vendors have been here before, but Esquilin reminds them that staff is available to help if need be.

4:30 p.m.

Esquilin meets the roughly 40 iCat students in line to get in and escorts them to the door where their tickets will be scanned. The first iCat card is scanned into the system and shows that it has been denied. The staff quickly tries another scanner — denied. Esquilin contacts R.J. Bokelman, director of facilities operations, who advises him to try one more card and a different scanner. The ticket-taker tries another scanner and iCat card with the same result. It appears there is an issue with the system.

4:34 p.m

In addition to the iCat card issue, the system shows 200 students have already been admitted even though no one is in Bramlage besides the staff and teams. Esquilin and Bokelman continue to investigate the problem; Esquilin remarks that this is "a first" for him. They speculate that the problem could lie with the code programmed into the system for the free student entry promotion.

4:37 p.m.

Bokelman radios to Esquilin to attempt another scan. This time, it works. The crowd of students in line cheers.

4:40 p.m.

Esquilin verifies that the staff is ready by making a trip around the concourse. On a typical game day he says he walks around the complex 25-30 times. He communicates to the Northeast part of the complex to instruct them again to keep an eye out for ice.

4:56 p.m.

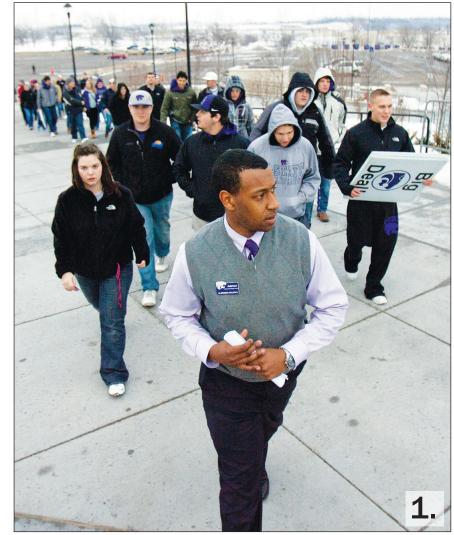
The final call to the staff is made to make sure everyone is ready for the doors to open at 5 p.m. The game clock begins to tick down. Both teams are on the floor starting their pregame routines. The game will be televised on ESPNU, so the network will dictate the exact tinoff time.

After all gates respond that the doors are ready for business, Esquilin radios to Muller to ask if they are ready for the doors to open. Muller confirms that the doors should open on time.

5:01 p.m., one hour to tipoff

The doors are clear to open. Patrons begin to trickle into the complex. The threat of a snowstorm could mean a lower turnout than normal, but the staff hopes the free student tickets will make up for the loss.

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.







all photos by Evert Nelson | Collegian

1. Adrian Esquilin, sophomore in open option, leads a group of students into Bramlage Coliseum before the game against Texas Tech on Feb. 25, when students with iCat cards gained free admission. As a snowstorm slowly approached Manhattan, students began lining up outside on the East side of Bill Snyder Family Stadium three hours before the game's 6 p.m. tipoff to get first choice of seats.

2. Checking his radio, **Esquilin** listens to chatter from other Bramlage staffers while walking around the field-house checking all the vendors.

3. A large bulletin board welcomes visitors to the offices of athletics pperations at Bramlage Coliseum, where **Esquilin** met with R.J. Bokelman, director of facilities operations, in her office. Bokelman assisted Esquilin as he and other Bramlage employees tried to work through an error in the computer system that prevented students with iCat tickets from gaining entry to the game.

4. Esquilin takes a student's ticket to try it with a different ticket scanner. Esquilin admitted the technical difficulties with students' iCat tickets were "a first" for him. Besides the ticket problems, the system also erroneously showed that 200 students had already entered Bramlage.







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5. Sharing an elevator with Jim Muller, director of facilities maintenance, and Willie the Wildcat, Esquilin mocks the mascot by making fun of his feline features. Esquilin was on his way to the offices to check on his staff before the game against Texas Tech.

6. While making his rounds around Bramlage Coliseum, Esquilin checks on the vendor Cats Closet on the East side. Before games, Esquilin makes sure there aren't any problems with vendors in Bramlage or with staff working outside of where the game will be played.

7. Esquilin talks with Bokelman as they try to fix the ticket scanners preventing students from entering the game. Bokelman speculated the issue was caused by allowed iCat ticket-holders free entry. They soon had the problem fixed, and students began filing in.

